

Garbage Gazette

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

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Workshop Scheduled for America Recycles Day Event Planners



There will be a workshop for America Recycles Day event planners on **Tuesday, June 26, 2001**. The workshop will be held at the CRRA Visitors Center on 211 Murphy Road in Hartford and run from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. There is no fee to attend this workshop, but pre-registration is required. If you would like to receive an agenda and registration form, please call Meg Enkler at (860) 424-3238 or e-mail at margaret.enkler@po.state.ct.us.

Anyone who is interested in hosting an event as part of our state's 5th annual America Recycles Day celebration is encouraged to attend. America Recycles Day is a national recycling awareness day held on November 15th. Events held in celebration of the day are scheduled during the period from September 1-November 20th. Last fall, towns, businesses, schools, state agencies and non-profits hosted 146 events.

The workshop will showcase the resources that will be available to event planners, including; recycled promotional products, statewide contests and competitions, local and national prizes, displays and much more. Lunch will be provided to all participants through the generosity of the Connecticut Recyclers Coalition (CRC). CRC has served as co-chair of the America Recycles Day effort in our state since the national celebration began in 1997.

Green School Contest Entry Forms Available



The Connecticut Green School Contest is in its' 4th year. Entry notices for the 2001-2002 school year contest were sent to all schools in Connecticut, both public and private, in late April. To be eligible to enter, a school must be in compliance with state recycling law. Winning schools go far beyond what is required by state law, exhibiting an exemplary environmental ethic in all aspects of school operation. The selection committee will choose winners in three categories; elementary, middle and high school. Winning schools are invited to send a representative to the fall annual meeting of the Connecticut Recyclers Coalition to receive a plaque recognizing their achievement. In addition, each school receives an ice cream party, sponsored by the HP HOOD Corporation, for all students and staff. Applications must be submitted no later than October 12, 2001. Please call Meg at (860) 424-3238 to get a copy of the application form.

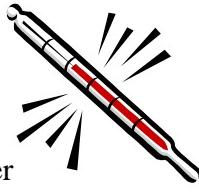
Correction!!

In our last issue, March 2001, we included some addresses where "hard to recycle" items could be sent. Several of our readers contacted us to let us know that some of these addresses were not correct. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may have caused. Please note that Eco-media is still accepting videotapes for recycling, but the correct address is Eco-media, 917 East Katella Ave, Anaheim, CA 92805 (800) 359-4601.

Corporations Support Thermometer Exchanges



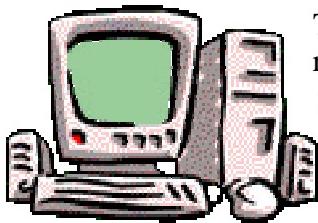
Last Fall, Connecticut residents were given the opportunity to exchange mercury fever thermometers for digital replacements. The program was very successful with 32,000 mercury fever thermometers turned in. Now, a few Connecticut companies have offered the thermometer exchange for their employees.



West Haven based Bayer Corporation conducted an exchange from February through April. The DEP provided the digital replacement thermometers while Bayer covered the cost of the safe disposition of the mercury. Bayer was able to collect 970 mercury fever thermometers and educate their employees about the dangers of mercury. According to Dave Smith, Superintendent of Health and Safety for Bayer, "Bayer cares very much about the health of its employees and the environment. The thermometer exchange program was an excellent opportunity for us to demonstrate such responsible care. During our on-site exchange we distributed an education pamphlet to employees called "Mercury Thermometers and Your Family's Health", and took almost 1000 mercury thermometers out of homes across the state. Being able to contribute to this major health and environmental initiative of the CT DEP is something Bayer is very proud of".

Unilever in Trumbull and US Surgical in North Haven, have also begun thermometer exchange programs. Any Connecticut companies interested in conducting a thermometer exchange for their employees should contact Tom Metzner at (860) 424-3242.

New DEP Recycling Home Page



The section of the DEP website, www.dep.state.ct.us, that has recycling information has been given a new look. There is a new recycling home page and 12 sub-homepages that we hope will make it easier for visitors to find the information that they need. To see the new site click on "Protecting Our Environment" on the DEP homepage and then click on "Bureau of Waste Management". You will see an entry for "Recycling Information" or access the page directly at www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/ctrecycles.htm.



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